

U.S. ROUTE 20 (FAP 301)
FROM ILLINOIS ROUTE 84 NORTH OF GALENA
TO BOLTON ROAD NORTHWEST OF FREEPORT IN
JO DAVIESS AND STEPHENSON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)
by the

Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
and
Illinois Department of Transportation

Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

11/16/04
Date of Approval

11/16/04
Date of Approval

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Michael L. Rine
For IDOT

J. L. Stevens
For FHWA

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Mr. Norman R. Stoner, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
3250 Executive Park Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62703
Phone: (217) 492-4640

Mr. Gregory L. Mounts, P.E.
District Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
819 Depot Avenue
Dixon, Illinois 61021-3500
Phone: (815) 284-2271

Abstract: The purpose of the proposed action is to provide an improved transportation system in Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties, to provide a transportation facility that will properly address existing and projected system deficiencies and to improve the safety and efficiency of the existing transportation system. The proposed action will integrate the needs of increased development, system capacity, travel safety, community access, and system continuity. The Preferred Alternate will provide a high-type multi-lane highway with an appropriate connection to the four-lane facility west of Illinois Route 84, and extending 75.6 km (47 miles) to the east, connecting to a previously approved four-lane facility east of Bolton Road, northwest of Freeport.

The Preferred Alternate includes the displacement of 34 residences and 3 businesses. **Of the 34 residential displacements, 25 are farmsteads containing 103 buildings. Agricultural impacts include the loss of 842 acres of prime farmland, severance of 98 parcels and landlock 34 parcels. The project will require 2,760 acres of right-of-way. Natural resource impacts include the loss of 111 hectares (274 acres) of upland forest communities, fragment forested habitat for neotropical migrant species of birds, the loss of 1.47 hectares (3.63 acres) of wetlands, involve four longitudinal floodplain encroachments, the placement of 22,298 square meters (240,017 square feet) of fill into 12 base (100-year) floodplains and cause visual impacts in the Apple River area. Mitigation is being provided for upland forest, Neotropical migrants, and wetland impacts.**